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1. *Introduction*

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PESHAWAR 433 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. AMONG PER OBSERVERS OF THE AFGHAN SCENE IN PESHAWAR DAUD CLAIMS TO HAVE ANY EVIDENCE THAT THE SOVIET UNION ACTUALLY HOSTED DAUD IN HIS RETURN TO POWER, MANY PER WOULD ACCEPT IT AS ALMOST AN ARTICLE OF FAITH. THE SOVIETS HAD A SIGNIFICANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THE COUP. THERE IS ALSO A COMMONLY HELD BELIEF, PARTICULARLY AMONGED IN MILITARY CIRCLES, THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE AN INTERESTED WESTER INTEREST IN PROMOTING THE CAUSE OF PUKHTOONISTAN AS DO THE AFGHANS. ONE SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER CONFIDENTLY PREDICTED TO THE CONSULATE THAT THE SOVIETS WILL NOW PROCEED TO UTILIZE THE ISSUE IN A DRIVE TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD ON THE ARABIAN SEA.
3. ANOTHER GROUP OF OPINION MAKERS, COMPOSED LARGELY OF PER LEADERS AND SUPPORTERS, AND PRESUMABLY MANY OF THEM AFFILIATED WITH THE JUI, HAVE REJECTED SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENTS IN KABUL. WHILE THEIR PRIVATE COMMENTS ON THE COUP HAVE TENDED TO BE NON-COMMITTAL, AMONGED, WAP LEADERS IN THEIR PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS HAVE INDICATED THEY ARE NOT UNHAPPY TO SEE DAUD BACK IN POWER. DAUD HAS THE IMPRESSION HAS BEEN GAINED THAT THE WAP AND HIS ASSOCIATES BELIEVE THAT A REVIVAL OF THE PUKHTOONISTAN QUESTION WILL REDOUND TO THE BENEFIT OF THE WAP IN ITS STRUGGLE WITH PRESIDENT BHUTTO. WAP OBSERVERS HERE, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PARTY, BELIEVE THAT MEMBERS OF ALL FACTIONS WITHIN THE WAP, WHETHER CIVIL AND MILITARY ALIKE, SEE THE PUKHTOONISTAN ISSUE AS A WEAPON WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR USE AGAINST BHUTTO IF THE PRESIDENT CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO THE WAP ON THE WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES WHICH PRESENTLY DIVIDE THEM. ACCORDING TO THESE OBSERVERS, HOWEVER, THE LARGE MODERATE FACTION AND THE SMALLER MILITANT GROUP WITHIN THE WAP HAVE DIFFERING VIEWS AS TO HOW THE PUKHTOONISTAN WEAPON SHOULD BE USED BY THE PARTY. WHILE THE FORMER SEE IT MERELY AS A STICK WHICH CAN BE USED TO TRY TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS FROM PRESIDENT BHUTTO, THE LATTER REPORTEDLY ARE AWAITING THE DAY WHEN IT CAN BE USED AS A HEAVY CLUB TO INVOKE GOVERNMENT REPRESSION AND FORCE A FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH THE PRESIDENT.
4. IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE AFGHAN COUP, VERY LITTLE HAS BEEN HEARD IN PESHAWAR ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE IN THE TRIBAL AREAS OF THE NORTH THINK ABOUT THE RETURN OF DAUD TO POWER. HOWEVER, ALL THOSE OFFICIALS AND OTHERS WHO CLAIM TO KNOW SOMETHING OF TRIBAL ATTITUDES ARE UNANIMOUS IN OPINION THAT THE TRIBALS ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE PROSPECT OF DAUD AGAIN PUSHING THE CAUSE OF PUKHTOONISTAN BECAUSE THEY ARE CONFIDENT IT WILL LEAD TO

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BECAUSE THEY ARE CONFIDENT IT WILL LEAD TO AN
INCREASE IN THE FLOW OF MONEY TO THE TRIBAL AGENCIES
FROM KARAI AND ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES FROM
ISLAMABAD.

EVERTS

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